OUTLINE OF THE BOOK OF DEUTERONOMY

The layout of the book of Deuteronomy closely mirrors the structure of a treaty between nations in ancient near east - an agreement between a powerful king and a lesser vassal.

TREATY FORMAT (9 Components)	PURPOSE	BOOK OF DEUTERONOMY
1. Pre-Amble	Introduces the king, his title, and the parties involved in the treaty.	Chapter 1:1–5 Introduces Yehovah speaking through Moses and Israel.
2. Historical Prologue	Describes the historical events that led to the forming of the treaty and also recalls what the king has graciously done for the vassals in the past that justify their allegiance.	Chapter 1:6 – 4:49 Reviews the journey of Israel from Egypt and God's faithfulness throughout the wandering in the wilderness.
3. Stipulations	Terms of the treaty: laws, agreements and obligations.	Chapter 5 – 10 The Ten Commandments, the Shema and the Requirements.
4. Specific Terms	Terms of the treaty developed into specific details and terms.	Chapter 11 – 26 Specific details of the Torah: commandments, statutes and judgements.
5. Execution of the Treaty	How the treaty is written and how it would take effect.	Chapter 27 To be written on two tablets of stones and to build a monument when Israel crosses over the Jordan river.
6. Sanctions	Outlines the rewards for maintaining of loyalty and punishment for breaking the terms.	Chapter 28 The blessings and curses.
7. Succession Order	Provision for the continuity of the treaty for subsequent generation.	Chapter 29 – 34 Renewal of the covenant for the new generation and the establishing of Joshua as the successor of Moses.
8. Witness	Third parties as witness to the sealing of the treaty.	Chapter 30:19 – 31:28 Moses calls on heaven and earth to stand as the witness.
9. Deposition and Public Reading	The public reading of the treaty to all who are involved and the proper storage of the documents.	Chapter 31:9–13, 24–26 Placing of the Ten Commandments in the Ark of Covenant and publicly reading it every 7 years.

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